WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Bilateral trade between India and Japan

867. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the bilateral trade between Japan and India is increasing;

(b) if so, the details of import and export between the two countries during the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to increase trade between the two countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The volume of trade between India and Japan during the last three years is as under:

(in US$ Million)

Year	India's Exports	India's imports	Total Trade
2003-04	1709	2668	4377
2004-05	2128	3235	5363
2005-06	2481	4061	6542

(source DGCI&S)

(c) During the visit of our Prime Minister to Japan the two leaders decided to launch immediate negotiations for the conclusion of bilateral economic partnership Agreement/Comprehensive partnership agreement (EPA/CEPA) on the basis of recommendations of Joint Study Group. The first meeting of the Joint Task Force set up for EPA/CEPA negotiations was held in New Delhi from January 31 to February 2, 2007. Apart from this trade between the two countries is promoted through participation in trade fairs and exhibitions held in India and Japan.